

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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Local contact for events listed on next page

## **National Trails Day Events Planned As the Kick Off for the Shasta-Trinity Trail**

Envision a trail connecting the Sacramento River with Clear Creek, Shasta, Trinity and Whiskeytown Lakes! On Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>, the public is invited to a series of National Trails Day Events where the public will learn about this new proposed trail and participate in hiking, riding, or maintaining area trails.

The Shasta-Trinity Trail is the concept for a new regional trail that could eventually link up many local trail systems into one larger system. Eventually it could become a special recreation resource the region could call its own.

National Trails Day is an annual event. This year's events highlight local trails that eventually could become part of the larger trail effort. Events will be held on both Saturday and Sunday. For information on the planned activities and local contacts, see the attached list.

### **Background Information:**

A coalition of organizations and agencies have come together to begin the initial planning for the trail. Members include the City of Redding, Shasta County, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Trails Council of Greater Redding, the Backcountry Horseman's Association, to name a few. This coalition is assisted by the Rivers and Trails Program, part of the National Park Service, which provides planning assistance to local communities. For more information about the Shasta-Trinity Trail or the Rivers and Trails Program, contact Holly Van Houten at (415) 427-1451 or visit the Shasta-Trinity Trail website at [www.nps.gov/pwro/rtca/shasta-trinity.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pwro/rtca/shasta-trinity.htm).

National Trails Day is an annual event sponsored by American Hiking Society, a national non-profit organization. For more information about the day, visit their website at [www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org).

## **Events Information**

The public is invited to join other trails enthusiasts to learn more about the Shasta-Trinity Trail project at one of the following National Trails Day events:

### **Cloverdale Hike and Work Day**

- *Location:* Cloverdale Recreation Area
- *Time:* Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8 am to 12 noon.
- *Contact:* Bill Kuntz, Bureau of Land Management, 224-2157 and Don Neptune, Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve, 244-3405.
- *Directions:* From Interstate 5, take the Cypress Street exit and go west for 1.4 miles, then south on Highway 273 for 6.7 miles, take Clear Creek Road west for 8 miles, then north on Cloverdale Road for 2 miles. Look for signs to the event.
- *Description:* Help take apart some old cattle corrals and barbed wire fencing to make a parking lot for this Cloverdale Recreation Area, managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Join folks from the Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve and the BLM to hike the property to see the vistas and future trail network that may eventually be built here. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, bring water and lunch. Snacks, tools and gloves to be supplied by the BLM. You can participate in the work day -- or not -- and join the tour of the property at any time from 8 am to 12 noon.

### **Tour the New Hilltop Trail Connection**

- *Location:* Hilltop Drive at the Bella Vista Water Tower
- *Time:* Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8 am to 10 am
- *Contact:* Terry Hanson, City of Redding, 225-4009.
- *Directions:* Park on Hilltop Drive near the Bella Vista Water Tower; between Lake Blvd. and the I-5 Freeway.
- *Description:* Hike the partially developed trail connection and get a preview of this challenging but very beneficial connection to the Sacramento River Trail.

### **Trail Maintenance Workshop at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area**

- *Location:* Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
- *Time:* Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 am to 12 noon.
- *Contact:* Phyllis Swanson, Whiskeytown NRA, 242-3421.
- *Directions:* From Highway 299, turn into Whiskeytown NRA about 8 miles west of Redding. Follow signs to Brandy Creek Picnic Area.
- *Description:* Join National Park Service personnel to learn about trail maintenance. This hands-on workshop will teach you how to assess trail conditions, clear trail by removing loose rock and cutting trees, brush and branches, and to clean and repair waterbars and rolling dips. As a word of warning: participants may be exposed to high temperatures, poison oak, blackberry bushes, stinging insects, rattlesnakes, and bears. Bring a lunch for a picnic after the workshop, drinks will be provided.

**Climb Kanaka Peak!**

- *Location:* Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
- *Time:* Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 am to approximately 1:00 pm
- *Contact:* Jon Pecaut, WeSkiII, 244-0607.
- *Directions:* From Highway 299, turn into Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, at its Visitors Center, about 8 miles west of Redding. Follow signs to the NEED Camp and meet in the "overflow" parking area.
- *Description:* Join the WeSkiII Club for a training climb up Kanaka Peak. This 8-mile gains 2,600 feet in elevation, a very strenuous climb. It should take about 3 to 4 hours. From Kanaka Peak, you will experience stunning views of the park, Mt. Shasta, Mt. Lassen, and the Sacramento Valley. Bring food and plenty of water, as well as cameras, sunscreen, eye protection and appropriate clothing. Due to the strenuous nature of the event, children are not recommended.

**Road to Trail: Connecting the Past with the Present**

- *Location:* Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
- *Time:* Sunday, June 4th from 9:00 am to 11:30 am
- *Contact:* Clinton Kane, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, 242-3451 or call the Visitor Center at 246-1225.
- *Directions:* From Highway 299, turn into the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, about 8 miles west of Redding. Follow signs to the NEED Camp. Meet in the parking lot.
- *Description:* Tour a unique trail with a National Park Service ranger. Learn how the recent conversion of an old logging road into a scenic trail has improved the watershed and enhanced wildlife habitat within Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. Participants will stop at various locations on the trail and discuss how the reconstruction of poorly designed roads can restore natural landscapes, reduce the potential for gullies and landslides, and protect riparian habitat. Other topics for discussion will include issues such as erosion, hydrology, sedimentation, use of heavy equipment, and revegetation practices. The trail is moderately strenuous with an elevation gain of about 440 feet and 2.2 miles in length. Participants should wear sturdy shoes, carry water, insect repellent and bring along snacks.

**Mountain Bike the Stagecoach Road to Old Shasta**

- *Location:* Sacramento River Trail in Redding to Old Shasta
- *Time:* Sunday, June 4th from 8:30 am to approximately 1:00 pm
- *Contact:* Jon Pecaut, WeSkiII, 244-0607.
- *Directions:* Meet at the east side of Diestlehorst Bridge near the Senior Citizens Center in Redding off Riverside Drive.
- *Description:* Join the WeSkiII Club on this intermediate mountain bike ride following the Sacramento River Trail to the historic town of (Old) Shasta. The route is 15 miles round trip, lasting 3 - 4 hours. It will take us on the west side of the Sacramento River, up a converted rail grade, along the Ruggles Trail (the old stage coach road where Ruggles brothers robbed the stage in 1892) to Highway 299 at Shasta. We'll break for an hour to snack and tour the recently remodeled state park museum. Our return trip will offer an optional 2+ miles of challenging single-track trail for more experienced riders. Bring food and plenty of water as well as cameras, sunscreen, eye protection and appropriate clothing. Helmets are required. Due to the strenuous nature of the event, children are not recommended.